

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

Please amend Figures 1, 2, 6, and 8 by replacing the drawing sheets including those figures with the replacement drawing sheets appended to this Reply. Also appended to this Reply are copies of the original drawing sheets showing, in red, the changes made to Figures 1, 2, 6, and 8.

REMARKS

Applicants' representative wishes to thank Examiner Pedder for the courtesy extended during the personal interview conducted on February 15, 2005. A separate record of the substance of this interview is included in the remarks which follow.

Claims 1-16 remain in this application, while claims 17-20 are canceled. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

The cross-references provided by paragraph 2 of the specification are updated above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in sections 2 and 3 on page 2 of the Office Action are requested. As discussed during the interview, it is apparent from specification paragraph 18 and Figures 2 and 5-7, for example, that, in the particular embodiment of the invention disclosed and illustrated, the locking member 9 is connected fast, i.e. "torsion-resistant," by way of the bearing shaft 17 to the second actuating element 13. Claim 1, in any event, is amended above to eliminate the term "torsion-resistant" to eliminate any confusion. As also discussed during the interview, it is apparent from specification paragraph 19 and Figures 5-8, for example, that the detent 22 is in fact connected to the first actuating element 12 in the embodiment of the invention illustrated and described. It is respectfully submitted that the specification describes the invention claimed in a manner which is sufficiently full, clear, concise, and exact as to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. As was tentatively agreed during the interview, therefore,

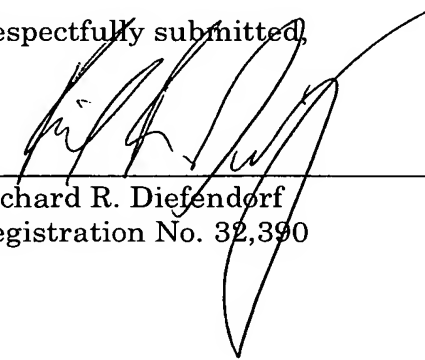
reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in sections 2 and 3 on page 2 of the Office Action are in order.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,957,511 to Homann et al. Claims 17-20 are canceled, however, and claim 1 is amended above in the manner discussed during the interview to reflect that the open position specified in claim 1 is effected by a rectilinear motion of first actuating element (element 12 in the illustrated embodiment of the invention) and a rotary motion of the second actuating element (element 13 in the illustrated embodiment). This feature is not present in the Homann et al. closure and, as was tentatively agreed during the interview, currently amended claim 1 is patentable. Claims 2-16 depend on claim 1 and are patentable as well.

This application should now be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions after considering this Reply, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Date: March 14, 2005

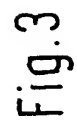
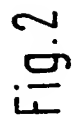
Respectfully submitted,



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Fig.1



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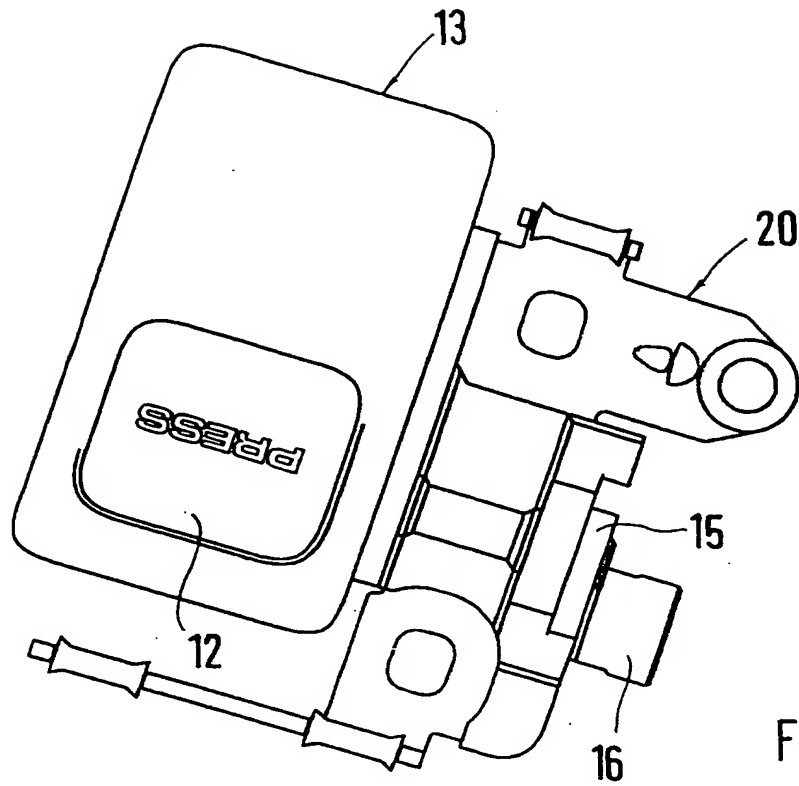


Fig. 4

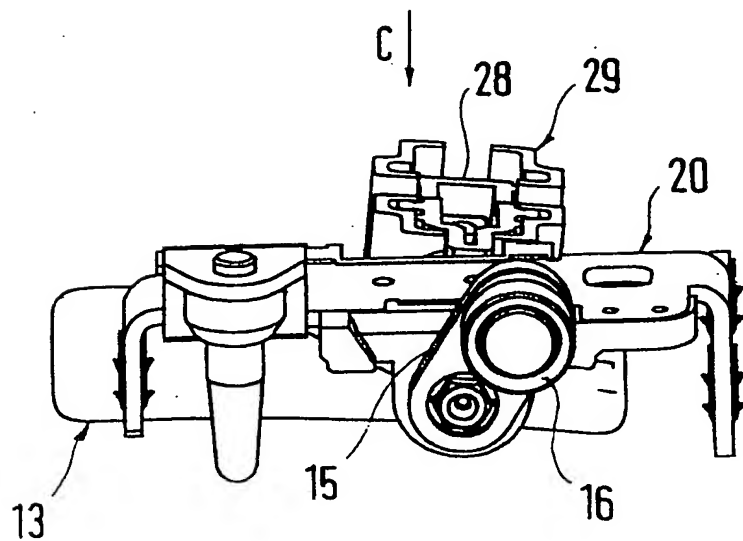


Fig. 5

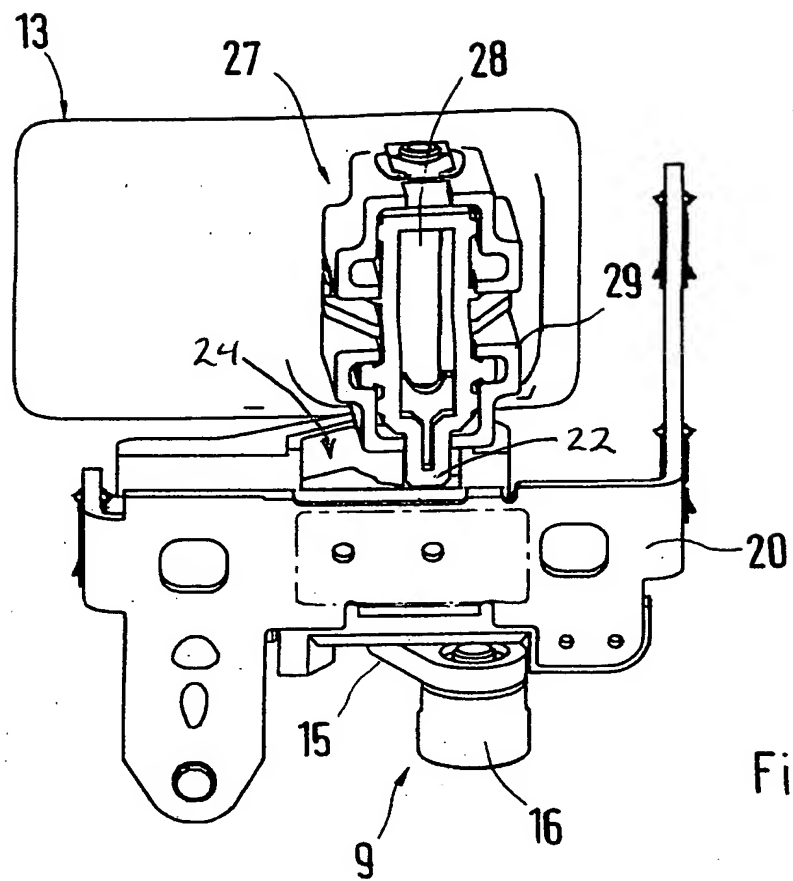


Fig. 6

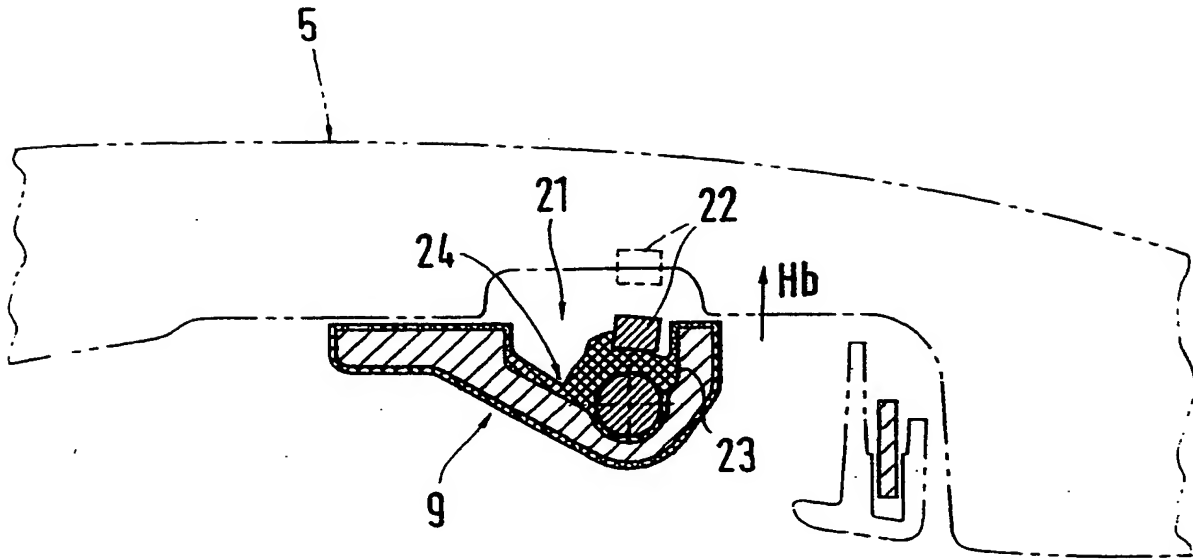


Fig. 7

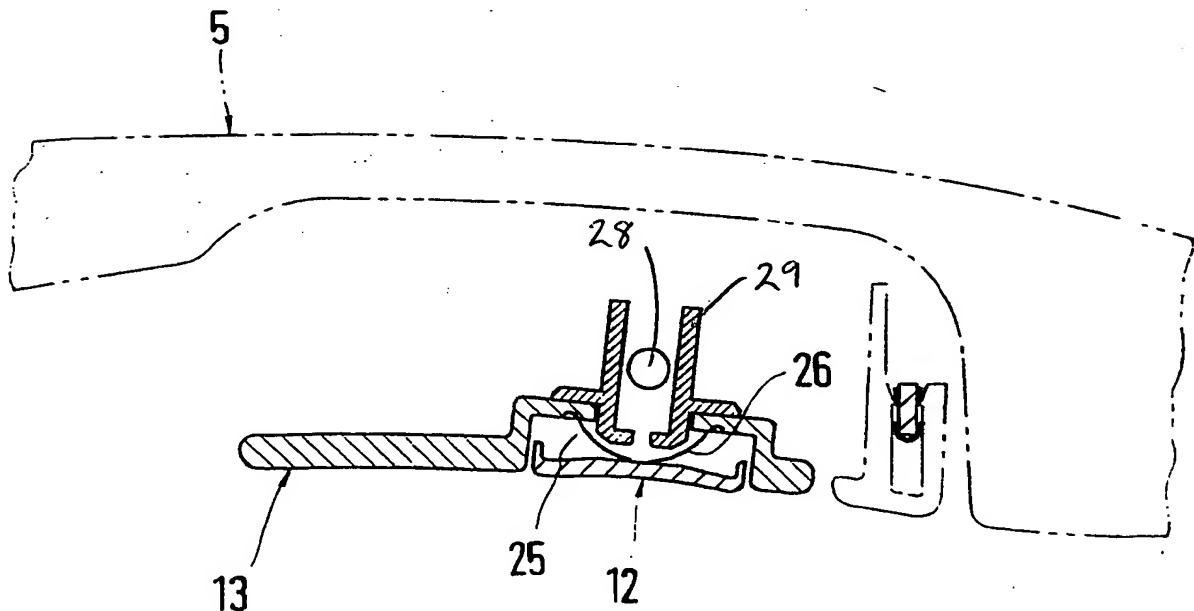


Fig. 8